

Appl. No. 10/780,935
Amdt. dated November 10, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 2, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A rollable mulch carpet comprising:
a base material made from a generally flexible and porous material, the base material having a lower ground engaging surface and an upper surface; and
a an artificial mulch-like material having the general appearance of natural wood mulch, the artificial mulch-like material being adhered to the upper surface of the base material only along a lower portion of the artificial mulch-like material such that an upper portion of the artificial mulch-like material is exposed; and said artificial mulch-like material substantially covering the upper surface of the base material.
2. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 1 wherein the mulch-like material is made from one of either shredded tires or plastic.
3. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 2 wherein the mulch-like material is bonded to the base material.
4. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 3 wherein the mulch-like material is bonded to the base material using an adhesive which is generally waterproof.

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5. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 3 wherein the mulch-like material and the base material are made substantially from the same rubber or plastic material.

6. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 2 wherein the mulch-like material is adhered and/or bonded to the upper surface of the base material by chemical or heat.

7. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 6 wherein the base material is made from one of either a generally porous plastic or a generally porous nylon material.

8. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 7 wherein the rollable mulch carpet is flexible enough to be stored, transported, or installed in a rolled up configuration.

9. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 8 wherein the mulch-like material is generally weather resistant.

10. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 9 wherein the rollable mulch carpet is manufactured in generally rectangular sections of about 3 feet in width and about 10 feet in length.

11. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 10 wherein the base material includes a plurality of openings of not greater than about 0.0625 square inches.

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12. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 11 wherein the base material and the mulch-like material are resistant to damage by insects.

13. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 1 wherein the mulch-like material is adhered to the base material in a single layer that substantially covers the upper surface of the base material.

14. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of claim 13 wherein the single layer of mulch-like material has a thickness of about 0.5 inch or less.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A process of manufacturing a rollable mulch carpet comprising the steps of:

providing a base material that is generally flexible and substantially porous and having an upper surface;

providing a mulch-like material from a weather resistant material that is one of either shredded rubber tires or plastic; and

adhering the mulch-like material to the upper surface of the base material only along a lower portion of the mulch-like material such that an upper portion of the mulch-like material is exposed; said mulch-like material being adhered to said base material in a single layer.

16. **(Original)** The process of Claim 15 further comprising the step of manufacturing the rollable mulch carpet in generally rectangular sections.

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17. **(Original)** The process of Claim 16 further comprising the step of manufacturing the rollable carpet mulch in a generally rectangular section having a width of about 3 feet and a length of about 10 feet.

18. **(Original)** The process of Claim 15 wherein the mulch-like material is adhered to the base material by at least one of either adhering, mechanically bonding, or physically bonding the mulch-like material to the base material.

19. **(Original)** The process of Claim 15 wherein the rollable mulch carpet has a thickness of about 0.5 inch or less.